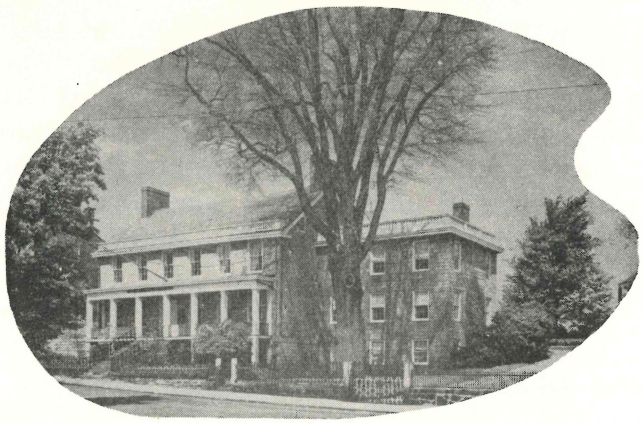
New London County Historical Society

11 Blinman Street SHAW MANSION New London, Conn.

Quarterly Bulletin



VOLUME 18 OCTOBER 1972 No.2

WHALING MANUSCRIPTS MICROFILMED

All of our whaling logs and manuscripts have recently been microfilmed by the Whaling and Marine Manuscript Archives, Inc., on Nantucket. The organization was formed to serve as a central repository of microfilms of the whaling material from all over the world. In this way, research can be done at one location without having to travel far and wide, and copies of any part of the films can not be made, except with the express permission of the original owners. They also send us duplicate films of our material for our own use. Mr. Douglass C. Fonda, the president, spent four full days at the Mansion filming the manuscripts and was quite impressed with them. He is a delightful man, an interesting one, and completely submerged in his subject, even to the point of having a license plate for his car which reads ORCA.

CONDITION OF THE GROUNDS

Take a look at the yard at the Mansion and rejoice. They are finally being taken care of as they should be. We have been fortunate in finding a man who really works, knows what he is doing and does it. We thought we had such a man last spring, but his other work interfered to the point where he could not keep up with what should be done. One large dead tree had to be removed by a commercial tree surgeon, but our present yard man can trim out small ones that have died, cut and prune out dead wood from fruit trees, clear away brush, clip hedges, clear grass from overgrown brick paths, even clean out the cellar. What is more, he even knows weeds from flowers.

WATERFORD COUNTRY SCHOOL, INC.

The above-named school is a private, non-profit, residential school for emotionally disturbed andmultiply handicapped children. And they have asked

for donations on behalf of the Waterford Country School Store. It is part of an incentive program that teaches children to work and save, and provides them with a possibility of making purchases at the Store by redeeming credits they earn for extra work or especially good conduct. The Store is stocked entirely with donations from outside organizations, individuals and employees of the School. Anything new or used that is appealing to students who range in age from six to eighteen is welcome, as well as cash donations that enable them to make purchases. Popular items include model kits, costume jewelry, cosmetics, record albums, tickets to public events, cameras and film, hobby kits, sports equipment, arts and crafts materials, games and wall posters. Donations are tax deductible and should be sent to Herbert T. Schacht, the Executive Director of the School, R.F.D. #2, Quaker Hill, Conn.

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from the DIARY OF ABEL SPICER, 1758

(Periods and some commas have been inserted to make reading easier, but the spelling has not been corrected. The most disconcerting error is the spelling "one" for "on".)

June 1758. I inlisted myself a solger in Captn John Stantens Company Monday June 5. We met at nathan allyn's and William fanning and David fanning and Joshua Ganey and myself was sent after Daniel Whipple and took him. Tusday the 6 we braught him to new london and then we was all imbarked A bord on Wendsday 7 and sot sail from New london about nine of the clock and sailed to black point and Came to an anker at Sunset and lay half an hour and the Wind blew So hard that we was forsed to Way our anker and came to new longon harber and drop anker and lay there til thursday 8th and the wind stil blew very hard til friday 9th about Sunrise we Waid our anker and tryed for to Sail out but the Wind being contrary we was forsed to put back again and Satterday ye 10th We made no attempt of Sailing the Wind Stil being Contrary. Sunday 11th we Sot Sail from new london harber and Sailed til we got against Stoning town harber and turnd about and come back again and droped anker and dined at landlord harrises and went on bord at sunset. Munday 12th we Sot Sail at Sunrise and Sailed til Sun 2 hours hy,. and dropt anker and lay a bout an our. Sailed again til we got to four mile river about 4 a clock in the afternoon and droped anker. ... Wendsday 14th... to easthaven... newhaven... milford... Stratford and 7 a clock we droped anker and sent a Shore for bred and 3/4 of a hundred which was s12: Thurdsday 15th we Sot Sail 4 a clock in the morning... sailed against Stanford which against oister bay one long island... by horsneck.. Ry... against hemsted on long island which is near the execution rocks... went by frogspoint where the tides meet caled Whetstone ferry, 8 a clock we came to hunts harber and droped anker and lay til Friday 16th. We histd our anker... with 15 more sail, the Cheif Ware transports, from thence to flushing bay and the Islands caled the two brothers. 7 a clock we went threw helgate, from thence to new York at 8 a clock and droped anker on the sowwest side of the Sitty against the fort. The english Church is one the South Side of the Sitty against the hook round the end of long Island and the old Church is one the West Side of the Sitty. The point Where the lit hous stands is Southwest from the Sitty, the new hospital is 20 rods South from the fort and the Magazene is about eight rods norwest from the governers hous under the Captins house. There is 100 cannons betwen the ambezears Which is one the Southwest prt of the Sitty.

3 a clock we Sot sail and 17 more which ware all transports. 5 a clock Wee went by the first glashouse and... came by a ledg one the West Side of olbeny river which was 150 fot rite up and down and there lay mountins on the east side of the river which is in york government and... went by Phillpses church which is one the East Side of the river which is in york government. 9 a clock We came to an anker in the middle of the river. and about 12 a clock at night a larg Sloop and Schooner Run athwat us and the Schooner run Under our bow and Sprung our bowlsplit and brok some of our rigin. Satterday 17th We Waid our anker... and the mountin one the West Side in jarsy government was supposed to be 350 fot in heighth perpendicular up and down and the river was supposed to be 4 miles Wide at that place which is against Phillipses patten... Went by dobses ferry... tappan bay about 3 miles north from the end of the mountin...by another about the same highth against finplanks patten... by fineus plans house the oner of the Pattin... by Ducenburys house ... and vast hy mountins on both sides of the river which is about 1 mile wide... by a mountin caled butterhil which is one the West side of the river and one the top of the hill is a Seder Swomp and a pond which is never Dry. The Chief Timber that groes one the mountins is hemlock and spruce... Sunday 18 at 7 a clock We Went by Levenstons hous which is one the east side of the river, a large red house with 4 dormer windows... sailed by pecipsea... by Levenstones manner one the east side of the river and one the West Side... is one hollander... half a mile north stands a Dutch meeting hous with a hipt ruf and a seeple right out of the top of the ruff... by Canterhok landing one the east side of olbany river and 8 a clock we came Quearmans... Quearmans hous is a large brick house... and against the hous we got aground and four transports with us and 10 a clock at night We got of... Munday 19th about 5 a clock in the morning We came to grenbush which is one the east of the river and droped anker about a mile south from olbany Sitty Which is one the West side of the river... was orderd one Shore and We Was incamped in a barn ... and the Curnals held a counsel of War at the Stores a larg brick hous and at 7 a clock they sent for our oldest Sarjint for to receive orders for to set a gard and Tuseday 20 at 7 a clock in the morning Was caled by the beet of the drum to attend prayors. and then was Sarjant John stedman and Daniel lam and Joseph williams and Timothy lam and Samuel badcock orderd up on gard and the night before there was a man Slain by the gard and this day was a number of Wimen Drove out of the Street by a file of men by order of the Colonel and our alowance is this Week one pound of pork for 1 day, one pound of flour for a day, 4 pounds of rice a week, eight ounces of butter a wek and we herd this day a rumur of a large army a comong against foft edward and at 3 a clock 3 of our company named Jeremiah Culver Joshua Gare and Abel Spicer and five more... was sent over to olbany Sitty after amminition. and we braught it and put it in the Stores. Wendsday 21th We had orders for to march to fort edward and I rote 3 letters that day... Thurdsday 22 We had our amminition gave to us, half a pound of powder and twenty bullits and our guns and baganets and was Marched of.. about a mile and a half and was ordered to charge our guns... Friday 23 We marched... and it did rain in the night and the forepart of the day which made very bad Walking by reason of the Ground being Chiefly Clay... came to the river ... and went over in the battos and marched to the North Side of the half moon and then was ordered by the Colonel for to take our flour and boil our meet for We was ordered for to March and carry our packs by 5 a clock in the morning. And then our packs was for to be Carried in the battos...and this night Elkanah morgan and Davis Williams and Thomas Story and Myself from our Company and Sixteen more from other companys was ordered upon gard

for this night and there was a man braught for the gard for to take Care of and I Abel Spicer Was ordered for to take Care of him and in about two hours the Leutenant of the Company Which he belonged to came and relieved him. Satterday 224th: We marched... in the morning and carryed our packs and the battos Was sent up to Stil Worter... and we marched to Captin lamsons at 11 a clock and it rained verry hard after We Came there and it Wet our guns... and at 1 a clock We marched by the fort at the flats and made a halt, and Stayed there half an hour and disCharged our guns for they was wet and loded our guns again and marched to the meddows which is about three miles from the fort and there was Sheds made with brush which we lay under that night.

(to be continued)

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ACCESSIONS

Patriots' Daughters, DAR, 1904 - Gift of Mrs. Earle Stamm
Bolles Genealogy, by John A. Bolles, 1865 - Gift of Mrs. W. R. Frisbie
Baby clothes, women's bonnets, cap, shawl, laces, fans, spectacles, etc., all belonged bo Prudence Stoddard - Gift of Dr. J.K.Stoddard, Gwynned, Pa.
Latter, 1757, Thomas Allen, St. Eustatius to Joseph Chew, New London - Gift of Dr. J.K. Stoddard, Gwynned, Pa.
Scrimshaw embroidery awl - Gift of Fred Smith
King James I Daemonologie (1597) & News from Scotland... (1591) Reprint, 1924 - Gift of Mr. & Mrs. Russell Harris
Her mother's wedding dress - Gift of Mrs. Thomas G. Hart
Meissen toy teaset, blue onion patter) Gift of
Embroidered grass linen lunch and teacloths) Mrs. James Maher
Beige wool cape, worn to Queen Victoria's Jubilee - Gift of Mrs. James Maher
Oriental runner and five Oriental scatter rugs - Bought by Society

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Resident custodian - Mrs. Arsyne Hamel
Secretary & Curator - Mrs. Adam L. Knox

tel. no. 443-1209

Please notify office of change of address.